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SUBJECT Political Information: An Explanation for TU
Yueh-sheng's Sudden Departure for Hongkong

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There has been speculation in many circles in Shanghai since TU's sudden departure for Hongkong on 1 February 1947. Reports from Canton have indicated that some members of TU's family preceded him to Hongkong by several weeks. Shanghai newspapers of 6 February 1947 carried the account of the sale of TU's palatial residence at the corners of Route Paul Henri and Route Doumer, Shanghai to the American Consulate. Source is of the opinion that TU, who is the second largest landowner in Shanghai and who never has had to depend upon his rents for income, suddenly needed the money. It seems more likely that TU, fearing the property might be confiscated, offered it to the American Consulate at a reasonable price for Shanghai today.)

1. TU Yueh-sheng was forcibly driven away by his three enemies HSUAN Tieh-wu (宣鉄吾) present Commander of the Shanghai-Woesung Garrison and concurrently Police Chief of Shanghai, WU Shao-shu and WANG Hsiao-lai (王曉籟) head of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai.
2. TU has long been an enemy of the Whampoa Military Clique and his gangs have always been a great nuisance to the military men. TU as a friend of TAI Li, was able to have the latter speak to the Generalissimo for him. Thus while TAI Li was alive, TU was in a fairly good position although his gangs were not strong enough to openly fight the Whampoa men who continually attempted to embarrass him. Early in the spring of 1945 one of TU's organizations in Chungking borrowed the Ch'ing Nien Kuan building of the San Kin Chu I Youth Corps for five days to present Chinese opera for relief. On the second day some soldiers instigated by the Whampoa Clique entered without tickets, broke up the performance and wrecked the stage so that TU had to abandon the rest of the programs. Thus TU and his gang lost face. Shortly before the end of the war the newspapers reported that TU had gone to Chengtu but he had really gone to T'unchi, Anhwei to get ready to enter Shanghai and take up his old position as Chairman of the Ti Fang Hsieh Hui (地方協會) or Shanghai Residents Association. (This is also reported by a friend of TU's son and other sources.) WANG Hsiao-lai was slated to become chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. TU was not at all satisfied with his political position and through the indirect influence of TAI Li he succeeded in getting his personal adviser, LO Ch'ing-hua

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(駱清華), appointed the first post-war chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. Thus he became the enemy of WANG. TU then proceeded to dislodge WU Shao-shu, Deputy Mayor of Shanghai, by starting stories that he was corrupt. TU was instrumental in getting his friend HO Te-k'uei appointed Deputy Mayor of Shanghai when WU "resigned" from that position. Thus TU made another enemy.

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3. After the death of TAI Li in a plane crash in April 1946, TU's fortunes began taking a turn for the worse. He had no one to support him with the Generalissimo. Shortly after TAI's death, WANG Hsiao-lai succeeded in getting himself appointed chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. Then TU was obliged to give up the Shanghai Municipal Council Chairmanship to P'AN Kung-chun (潘公展) immediately after the election on 13 August 1946. (It was reported in the press that TU was elected but that he "refused" the position.) About this time TU's gangs were warned by HSUAN Tieh-wu's men and were charged with being the "bad influence" in the city. WU Shao-hsu who was appointed to his present post in September 1946 was brought closer to members of the Whampoa Clique and thus closer to HSUAN.
4. Early in January 1947 HSUAN placed his resignation as Police Chief before the Generalissimo and Mayor WU of Shanghai. HSUAN hinted to his good friend YU Chi-shih (俞濟時), the Generalissimo's nephew and head of his body-guard who is also a Whampoa man, that HSUAN's resignation must stand or that he be permitted to eliminate TU. On the evening of 21 January HSUAN requested TU to call on him at the police headquarters. TU was kept waiting there for over an hour - he had called his family to report that he expected to be retained all night - when HSUAN came out and asked him if it were true that TU still smoked opium and gave opium parties. TU replied that it was not true and then was allowed to return home. Around 25 January HSUAN received a secret order from the Generalissimo that TU could be apprehended and executed on the charge that he was an opium addict. HUNG Lan-yu secretly (was permitted to?) inform TU of this and urged him to leave for Hongkong. TU is too much of an addict to give up his opium. As a face-saving gesture TU took with him Ch'ing Pang elder friend, YANG Hu, so that TU could tell his gang that he was accompanying YANG to Hongkong. Without TU his gang will be more easily suppressed by HSUAN.

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